

From: Jacqueline Morrison/R3/USEPA/US
Sent: 2/10/2012 2:44:46 PM

To: Shanna Halpern/R3/USEPA/US@EPA
CC:
Subject: Fw: FYI - Formal Request for ATSDR Health Consultation - Dimock PA Drinking Water

Jacqueline Morrison
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EPA Region 3
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----- Forwarded by Jacqueline Morrison/R3/USEPA/US on 02/10/2012 02:44 PM -----

From: Terry Simpson/ESC/R3/USEPA/US
To: Angela McFadden/R3/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: Angela McFadden/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Bill Jones/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Humane Zia/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Jacqueline Morrison/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, James VanOrden/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Jennifer Lynn/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Jessica Greathouse/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Judith Hykel/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Karen Melvin/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Marcos Aquino/R3/USEPA/US, Michael Dunn/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Peter Gold/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Richard Killian/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Terri-A White/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Thomas Damm/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, John Pomponio/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, John Krakowiak/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Cynthia Metzger/ESC/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Fred Foreman/ESC/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Cynthia Caporale/ESC/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Jon Capacasa/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Linda Boornazian/R3/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 12/16/2011 01:17 PM
Subject: Re: FYI - Formal Request for ATSDR Health Consultation - Dimock PA Drinking Water

Hi, Angela --

I am trying to get caught up on the happenings with the oil & gas extraction workgroup activities and recently finished reading the email below which was sent out last week. After looking at the Dimock issue paper that was included in the agenda for Ann Campbell's meeting this week and reading the Dec 3rd article entitled *EPA: No Threat to Dimock Water* in The Times-Tribune, a few questions come to mind about what data you were able to obtain, what is meant by "inconsistent/disorganized well data" in the issue paper and how we were able to formulate a conclusion either in support of PADEP or the homeowners given these inconsistencies.

The ESC in Ft. Meade is blessed with a number of chemists and data quality specialists that routinely validate and interpret data for quality and usability. We do this type of work every day for the Superfund program. We would love to help WPD out by taking a look at the data you've obtained on Dimock, if you think this would be of benefit.

If this wasn't already done by the ATSDR folks, some of the information we could help you determine is: 1) the comparability of the methods used for sampling and analysis by the different organizations and laboratories involved; 2) the appropriateness of the quality control employed and what it says about the data sets (e.g., contamination introduced by the sampling or analytical processes); and 3) whether there are any field or laboratory errors which may or may not have biased the data. (There may be other things we could tell you, but these three easily come to mind.)

Please let me know whether or not WPD would be interested in employing the ESC's expertise on the Dimock (or any other future) data. I look forward to hearing from you.

Terry

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Only four types of organizations need to worry about data quality:
Those that care about their customers,
Those that care about profit and loss,
Those that care about their employees, and
Those that care about their futures.
– Thomas C. Redman (2006)

From: Angela McFadden/R3/USEPA/US
To: Judith Hykel/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Karen Melvin/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Michael Dunn/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Jacqueline Mor Greathouse/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Angela McFadden/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Jennifer Lynn/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Richard Kil VanOrden/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Marcos Aquino/R3/USEPA/US, Bill Jones/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Peter Gold/R3/USEPA/US Terri-A White/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Thomas Damm/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Terry Simpson/ESC/R3/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 12/07/2011 11:57 AM
Subject: FYI - Formal Request for ATSDR Health Consultation - Dimock PA Drinking Water

----- Forwarded by Angela McFadden/R3/USEPA/US on 12/07/2011 11:56 AM -----

From: Jon Capacasa/R3/USEPA/US
To: Robert Helverson/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Lora Werner/R3/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: William Early/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Michael DAndrea/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, KarenD Johnson/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Victoria
Date: 12/07/2011 11:41 AM
Subject: Formal Request for ATSDR Health Consultation - Dimock PA Drinking Water

Lora and Bob-

Thank you for your ongoing work in the informal review of drinking water data associated with the Dimock PA private drinking water contamination matter. At this time, we would like to formally request that ATSDR conduct a Health Consultation on the individual contaminant risks as well as the cumulative risk of the various compounds found in the private wells in and around the Dimock, PA area.

Bob has been actively involved in informally reviewing the voluminous data from multiple sources in the area associated with the PA DEP's investigation of the gas production wells drilled by Cabot Oil. We believe that the private wells in and around the Dimock area have been negatively impacted by the Cabot natural gas drilling process as evidenced by the presence of methane, butane, propane, ethane, ethene, etc., related gas compounds and also the presence of high concentrations of secondary contaminants like aluminum, iron, manganese, etc.

We have recently received additional data identifying additional organic chemicals, not previously identified in data received on December 2, 2011, covering August and September 2011 samples. Please add this to the data already under review. These more recent samples also show organic contaminants present in samples which we do not have maximum contaminant levels established in drinking water, including Butyl benzyl phthalate, Triethylene Glycol and 2 Methoxyethanol among others. We are unsure at what levels these individual contaminants present health risks, or what cumulative effects these and the secondary contaminants might have on the health of persons drinking the water. Given that the residents are potentially in contact through dermal, inhalation and ingestion pathways, if you should identify any potential health threats please notify us as soon as possible.

This is an urgent matter to the Agency so completion of your review within the next two months is requested. You should use Karen Johnson of our Ground Water and Enforcement Branch in Water Protection Division as

your main point of contact on the data analysis and should you have any questions. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Jon M. Capacasa, Director
Water Protection Division
EPA Region III